



Soccer Rules and General Information 2009-2010 Season

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Mission Statement

The purpose of the City of Sunrise Youth Recreation Soccer program is to teach good sportsmanship, promote physical fitness and mental well-being to the youth of our community, and encourage the interest of youth in the game of soccer while teaching fundamental skills of the game.

General Information

PRACTICES - Pre-season practices begin October 26. All divisions will receive six (6) total pre-season practices. During the season each team will receive one (1) practice per week in addition to games. **NOTE:** Games begin on November 9.

KOHL'S AMERICAN CUP - A recreational soccer tournament conducted by FYSA will be held March 13-14, 2010. The tournament "provides recreational youth soccer players an opportunity to experience a consistent and high quality statewide tournament in a fun, festival-like atmosphere. It fosters stimulation and excitement about soccer in an effort to increase the recreational players interest in and love for the game." Eligible teams will consist of existing recreation teams plus two (2) alternate members, of your choice, from another team. Teams that participate in the tournament will need to pay, on their own, all applicable fees. Contact Leisure Services if you are interested.

NYSCA Coaches Code of Ethics

- I will place the emotional and physical well being of my players ahead of any personal desire to win.
- I will treat each player as an individual, remembering the large spread of emotional and physical development for the same age group.
- I will do my very best to provide a safe playing situation for my players.
- I will do my best to organize practices that are fun and challenging for my players.
- I will lead, by example, in demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship to all my players.
- I will provide a sports environment for my team that is free of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol, and I will refrain from their use at all youth sporting events.
- I will insure that I am knowledgeable in the rules of each sport that I coach, and that I will teach these rules to my players.
- I will use those coaching techniques appropriate for each of the skills that I teach.
- I will remember that I am a youth coach, and that the game is for children and not adults.

League Organization

Date of participant's birth must be verified by birth certificate. Complimentary hospital certificates, passport, or alien registration cards will not suffice. A photocopy of each player's birth certificate will be required by the Department of Leisure Services, if not on file at the time of registration.

Late registrations will be assigned to a waiting list and appointed by the Athletic Supervisor.

All participants must be registered with the City of Sunrise Department of Leisure Services before participating in the sport.

Age Groups

Teams will be divided into the following age groupings:

17 & Under (Co-ed League)	14 & Under (Co-ed League)
12 & Under Boys and Girls	10 & Under Boys and Girls
8 & Under Boys and Girls	Instructional (5 yrs old by 7/31/09)

League Administration

The City of Sunrise Department of Leisure Services will administer the Sunrise Soccer Program.

The Athletic Supervisor will act as coordinator for the program and will have the ability to suspend any coach.

Committee Duties

Make recommendations to the Department of Leisure Services and Athletic Supervisor regarding appointment of coaches and other volunteers.

Make recommendations for rule modifications, procedures and guidelines regarding the conduct of specific sport leader.

Make recommendations toward the general improvement of this sports program.

Will serve as a sounding board to the Athletic Supervisor on issues brought to the committee for consideration.

Interpret program goals, decisions and changes to the public.

Conduct official protest hearings and serve as a forum for fielding complaints and/or suggestions for the program.

Serve in various volunteer capacities as appointed by the Department of Leisure Services and agreed upon by the committee members.

Coaches Duties

Must be of good moral character and able to deal with children, assistant coaches, parents, game officials, city officials, and league administrators in a positive manner.

Coaches will be required to undergo a criminal background screening.

Will meet with Athletic Supervisor as needed to discuss any issues and/or concerns.

Responsible for drafting his/her team.

Responsible for the return of all goalkeeper jerseys and soccer balls to Leisure Services.

Responsible for the team's actions, including parents and fans, and represents the team in communications with the referee and opposing team.

Responsible for ensuring that his/her assistant coach and/or designated replacement act in accordance with these rules.

Responsible for appointing a representative to replace him/her if he/she is unable to be present.

Must be able to practice a minimum of two/three times weekly prior to the season.

Responsible for keeping his/her coaches and team parents in the appropriate areas throughout the game.

A Head Coach may take disciplinary action against a player but must report such action to the Athletic Supervisor. The Athletic Supervisor shall review all such disciplinary action.

A Head Coach shall have the responsibility of notifying the Athletic Supervisor, of any chronic absenteeism and/or discipline problems before taking any action.

No mechanical devices may be used to amplify a coach's voice at any time.

Coaches will keep their tone of voice informative and positive at all times.

All youth athletic volunteers that have cleared their criminal background checks are required to wear a photo identification badge when working with the children enrolled in a City of Sunrise youth athletic program.

Volunteers not displaying the identification badge will not be permitted to remain on the field/court with the children. City staff will be strictly enforcing this rule. Head coaches are asked to assist in this process by informing volunteers of the procedures necessary to work with children in youth athletic programs.

Teams without a coach with a City-issued ID card on game days can result in forfeiture of a game. Games forfeited due to this rule cannot be protested. NOTE: It is recommended that all coaches wear their "Coach" shirt provided by the City of Sunrise.

One Head Coach and one Assistant Coach are permitted on the official coaches roster. Freezes will only be granted to the Head and Assistant Coach whom make up the official roster.

Ratings - Selection of Players

Ratings: Players will be rated in respective divisions by a minimum of 5 volunteer's with knowledge of the sport and a representative of the city. If additional persons are needed the Athletic Supervisor shall appoint them. Ratings will be an individual effort and rater's cannot discuss ratings with each other or participants.

Players will be rated on a scale of 1 through 5 (one being excellent). This will be based on their ability to perform. The highest and lowest score will be eliminated and the remainder will be averaged and that rating will be assigned to the player. Every attempt will be made to make teams equal.

Player Eligibility: Only players of eligible age, whose eligibility is determined by the Leisure Services Department, shall have active participation in the program.

Birth certificates, hospital certificates, or other legal documents, which must be presented to a league official at the time of registration, shall certify date of birth of new players, or registrations will not be accepted. Photostat copies of any of these certificates are acceptable. Notarized statements of birth dates are not acceptable.

Replacement of Players

If a team loses one or more players from its roster during the current season through illness, injury, change of address or any justifiable reason, said team may request another player through the Athletic Supervisor within three days or less.

At the discretion of the Athletic Supervisor, if available, a replacement player will be assigned and considered an active member of the team. The coach cannot refuse players. Failure to follow this rule may result in the suspension of the coach and/or forfeiture of the game(s). Once assigned, a player is eligible to play in all subsequent games.

The playing ability of the individual will not be considered a justifiable reason for replacement or removal from the team.

No player shall be recruited or otherwise added to the waiting list after 50% of the regular season games have been played.

Any player who elects to quit or otherwise leave a team during the course of the season may not come back to the program. In order to get a replacement player, coaches should submit a letter to the Athletic Supervisor. A letter from the player's parents must be obtained by the Department of Leisure Services if withdrawing the player. Players must play in 50% of the regular season games in order to participate in post-season competition.

Player Draft

Coaches will draw numbers prior to the draft. Numbers drawn will determine seating order. Every effort possible should be made to keep teams as evenly balanced as possible.

Draft cards will be placed face down on a table with the rating numbers displayed. The player names will be on the bottom of the card. The coach currently drafting will select a player card and place the player on the team he/she is drafting. Coaches with rated frozen players will skip their turn in the draft dependent upon the rating given to their freeze. Frozen players who did not receive a rating will go into the draft with a 1 rating. Order of draft will reverse after each round. This process will continue until all rated and frozen players have been drafted to a team.

Coaches will receive one trade. This will take place after the teams have been selected. A team without a coach will be frozen and no trades will be allowed. Parent requests will be reviewed and honored appropriately.

Unknown Non-Rated players will be blindly drafted onto teams.

Once the draft has been completed no trades will be made and no players can be transferred from one division to another division.

Coaches will then select team colors followed by team names.

Following the draft coaches will select a number to determine their placement in the end of the season tournament.

Non-Rated Players

Known Non-Rated Players - These players will be assigned a rating by a city representative.

Unknown Non-Rated Players - A rating sheet will be distributed to all coaches at the draft. The sheet will have the name of all non-rated unknown players. Coaches will have the opportunity to rate any players, in which they have knowledge of the participant's skill level. A city representative will collect sheets. Scores will be averaged, throwing out the highest and lowest score. Player will be assigned that rating.

Any unknown players with no rating will be randomly placed on teams, through a blind drawing. These players cannot be traded.

Substitutions

All participants must play for a minimum of one quarter of each half unless the player is sick, injured or being disciplined by the league or game official. If so, the opposing team must be notified prior to the game starting.

Failure to comply with this rule will result in forfeiture of the game and/or suspension of the coach for one game.

Referees will blow the whistle at the end of the first quarter; at which time all those children not playing entered into the game and cannot be

removed, except for injuries, during the next quarter. Referee will call for the first and third quarter to conclude as close as possible to the required time as not to stop a potentially goal scoring opportunity.

NOTE: All substitutions must stand at the midfield line so the referees know who will be entering the game.

Referees will also blow the whistle at half time. The opposing team shall monitor substitutions. **There is no free substitution for the entire game.**

EXCEPTION: If a player comes before the end of the first quarter, he must play the second quarter and at least one quarter in the second half; or if a player comes after the second or third quarter has started, he must play at least one quarter in the second half.

NOTE: Late arriving players may play if team is shorthanded and may be immediately inserted in the game with stoppage of play when referee and coach are notified.

Player Roster

Instruction: Teams will play all players an equal amount of time.

8 & Under Boys / Girls: Start with max 7/min 5 & forfeit at 4 or less

10 & Under Boys / Girls: Start with max 9/min 6 & forfeit at 5 or less

12 & Under Boys /Girls: Start with max 11/min 8 and forfeit at 7 or less

14 & Under Coed: Start with max 11/min 8 and forfeit at 7 or less

Under 17 Coed: Start with max 11/min 8 and forfeit at 7 or less

Equipment & Uniforms

Players must wear the uniforms supplied by the Leisure Services Department and molded cleats or tie shoes (sneakers). Shoes with metal spikes, or squared off molded cleats are prohibited. In cases of cold weather, long shirts and long pants may be worn underneath the official uniform.

Jerseys must have sleeves. Velcro straps to keep the sleeve rolled up are prohibited. Jerseys must be tucked into shorts at ALL times.

All players participating in the game and during practice must wear soccer shin guards. Shin guards are worn beneath player's game socks. NOTE – Shin guards must cover approximately 80% of the player's shin. "Mini" shin guards are illegal. The size of the shin guard is at the discretion of the referee and he/she has the ability to disallow any inappropriate equipment.

Jewelry (rings, watches, necklaces, ankle bracelets, earrings, rubber bands, hair beads etc.) are prohibited. Placing tape or band-aids over jewelry will not be allowed. It is recommended that players who wear eyeglasses also wear protective goggles.

Both socks must be the same color.

Game ball size for each division shall be as follows:

- Size #5 Ball - 17 & Under coed and 14 & Under coed
- Size #4 Ball - 12 & Under boys and girls, 10 & Under boys and girls
- Size #3 Ball - Under 8 boys and girls and Instructional

City-Issued Balls - Each team will be issued game balls, which shall be used for games and practices. It is recommended players bring the appropriate size ball to practice.

No hard casts may be worn in games or practices. Soft casts must be approved by the referee prior to the game.

Practices

Teams engaging in practice simultaneously shall share practice facilities (including goals) equally. All practices are half field.

Practice schedules will be set by the Department of Leisure Services and shall be strictly adhered to.

There shall be no more than three practices per week prior to the season. There shall be no more than one mandatory practice per week during the season.

Soccer fields for additional practices are on a first come/first serve basis. The Leisure Services office will not be handing out permits for additional field space.

There will be no practices or games before 12:00 p.m. on Sundays.

Games

Games will be played at designated times. Failure to start games at referee's command may result in a forfeit by one or both teams. For the 6:00 p.m. games there will be a five-minute grace period. This grace period will not be deducted off game time.

The Head Coach is the official representative and will appoint captains prior to each game.

Prior to each game, opposing coaches shall exchange the team rosters (game sheet). Game sheets shall include all players' names and numbers.

The home team (team listed first on schedule) will supply the game sheet with complete information for his/her team to the opposing coach prior to the start of the game. The visiting coach must complete his information and turn it in to the city representative on site.

Both coaches and referees must sign the game sheet upon completion of the game. The game sheet is the City's official record of the game. Coaches are advised to review and verify that all information is correct before signing.

Length of Games

17 & Under Coed - Four fifteen minute quarters, one 5-minute halftime rest period.

14 & Under Coed - Four fifteen minute quarters, one 5-minute halftime rest period.

12 & Under Boys/Girls - Four twelve minute quarters, one 5-minute halftime rest period.

10 & Under Boys & Girls - Four twelve minute quarters, one 5-minute halftime rest period.

8 & Under Boys & Girls - Four eight minute quarters, one 5-minute halftime rest period.

Instructional - Four eight minute quarters, one 5-minute halftime rest period.

Referees

Referees ONLY shall have complete and total authority over the game, players, coaches and spectators before, during, and after the match. They may expel any player, coach or spectator for indecent language, unsportsmanlike conduct, or any infraction of rules. Refusal of expelled player, coach or spectator to leave the "playing area" within two minutes will constitute a forfeit.

NOTE: League administration WILL NOT interpret any rule from the time a game begins, until the time it ends. They may, however, enforce any and all rules regarding conduct of coaches, players and parents contained herein.

Officials will wear distinctive uniforms equipped with a whistle, and are required to carry the City's Rule Book.

Referees will be responsible for inspecting playing field surface irregularities and sideline hazards prior to game. Referees will also check player's equipment and uniforms to determine if they are acceptable.

Referees will ensure non-authorized persons do not enter the field of play. They may stop, suspend, or terminate the match because of outside interference of any kind.

NOTE: The Referee may allow play to continue until the ball is out of play, if in his/her opinion, a player is only slightly injured. The Referee also has the discretion to allow play to continue if there is an advantage for the attacking team, and apply disciplinary actions for cautionable offenses when the next ball goes out of play.

Referees are instructed to discuss matters in question ONLY with the head coach, NOT an assistant or a League Administrator. (And then, only if requested by the referee).

No coach may address an official concerning a call except during half or games end.

Head Referee shall be the ONLY official timekeeper.

Coaches SHALL NOT demand the removal or the scheduling of a particular referee/official.

Coaching

Only One (1) Head Coach and one (1) Assistant Coach may occupy the field and the sidelines where the team resides. All other spectators/assistant coaches must sit on the opposite side of the field and may only participate during practices. Head coaches who are unable to attend a particular game must inform Assistant Coaches to take over the team for that game. If neither the Head Coach or Assistant Coach can attend, it is the responsibility of the Head Coach to contact an approved coach to take over the team. If a team does not receive any adult supervision, the game will result in a forfeit. No game will be rescheduled due to coaches being absent.

There is no coaching allowed from the sidelines opposite of where the team resides. The referee has the discretion to stop any coaching being

done by anybody besides the One (1) Head Coach and One (1) Assistant Coach designated for that game.

Boundaries

The designated Head Coach and Assistant Coach must stay behind the designated line if painted. If not painted, they must remain at least 3 feet away from the playing field, as to not interfere with the run of play or the sightlines of the referees.

All other spectators must stay behind the designated spectator line if painted on the spectator side. If not painted, they must remain at least 3 feet away from playing field.

No parents, coaches, players, spectators, etc. are allowed behind the goal line or behind the net.

Rescheduling Policy

All games will be played according to the schedule issued by the athletic supervisor. Games will only be rescheduled under the following conditions:

In case of inclement weather, the decision to play scheduled games will be determined by the Department of Leisure Services prior to the game; or the referee at game time, or thereafter.

School educational functions that will affect a team's roster only if the team falls below the minimum number of players needed to start and end a game.

Religious functions may constitute reason for rescheduling games. Rescheduling games may occur only if attendance at these functions affects team's ability to start and end a game with the required number of players. Examples of functions that would be considered are bar mitzvah, bat mitzvah, communion, confirmation, etc.

Requests for rescheduling must be made, in writing, a minimum of three (3) business days in advance of conflict to the Athletic Supervisor. Receipt of request must be no later than 5 p.m. on a regular business day.

Once a game has been approved for rescheduling, the Athletic Supervisor, along with the coaches involved, will set the rescheduled date, time and field. A coach has 24 hours to verify with parents. This process can only be repeated once if the original rescheduled date is not convenient with either team. The game must be played within 72 hours of the second request for reschedule. This policy is exclusive of games that have been canceled due to inclement weather.

Protests

All protests on violations of these rules in officially scheduled games must be made in writing and filed with the Leisure Services Department within 24 hours of the scheduled starting time of the subject game along with a \$25 protest fee. Judgment calls are not subject to protest. The rule and section under protest must be clearly denoted in the protest.

All protests received on these rules after the time specified above will not be considered. Coaches contemplating a protest on violations of these (in house) rules on the field of play must notify the referee immediately of their desire, and before play resumes. Time and conditions of protest shall be noted on the game sheet by the referee at this time.

A protest fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25) must accompany each protest. In the event the protest is upheld, said fee will be refunded. In the event the protest is overruled or declared not valid by the Sports Advisory Committee; the Department of Leisure Services will retain said fee.

All soccer game protests will be reviewed by the Athletic Supervisor to determine whether it is a valid protest and if it should be brought before the Soccer Advisory Committee.

If a hearing is granted, the Athletic Supervisor must notify both involved teams of the time and place of hearing.

NOTE: Whenever a matter of protest arises during the progress of any game, the coach, or appointed team representative of the protesting team will notify the referees and coach of the opposing team immediately that the game is being continued under protest. This will enable all interested parties to take notice of the conditions that aid in the proper determination of the issue.

Coaches of both teams involved, referees, or their designated representatives, will be invited to the hearing.

Disciplinary Rulings

Players guilty of using profanity, either by word or sign, against players, coaches, spectators, referees, City Officials or any other person just before or during a game shall be suspended for the current game. If found guilty of such infraction following a game then the suspension will be the applied to the next game. Coaches, volunteers and/or spectators guilty of such infraction shall be ejected from the current game plus the next game. If found guilty of such infraction following a game then the suspension will be the next two games. It shall be noted on the game sheet and notification given to the Leisure Services Department.

Players, volunteers, coaches, and/or spectators guilty of making a verbal threat or making threatening gestures against other players, coaches, volunteers, spectators, referees, city officials, or any other person shall be ejected and receive a minimum of a two game suspension.

Players guilty of pushing, striking or any other physical contact against any other participant, volunteer, spectator, referee, city officials, or any other person may receive a minimum 3 game suspension to a maximum of lifetime suspension.

Coaches, volunteers and/or spectators guilty of pushing, striking or any other physical contact against any other participant, volunteer, spectator, referee, city officials, or any other person may receive a

minimum of one (1) year suspension to a maximum of lifetime suspension.

Players, volunteers, coaches and/or spectators ejected from a game that approach the game referees at anytime after their ejection or go onto the field may face additional game suspensions and/or be suspended for the remainder of the season.

Volunteers or coaches who are found to have intentionally violated the terms and/or the spirit of these rules shall be subject to discipline upon recommendation of the Committee, with the final approval of the Department of Leisure Services. If suspension is not appropriate, the offender may be placed on probation under conditions specified by the Committee/ Department of Leisure Services.

All conditions surrounding any disciplinary case must be placed in writing and placed in the Leisure Services office files.

All appeals will be reviewed by the Leisure Services Department to determine if it should be brought before the Committee.

NOTE: An ejected participant, volunteer, coach, or spectator must leave the playing area within 2 minutes. They may not sit in the stands and may not be recalled. Any disciplinary action taken will carry over the eligibility of an individual to coach or otherwise participate in all programs/sports administered by the Department of Leisure Services.

Any coach or team representative who refuses to start a scheduled game or finish a game in progress, or refuses to continue to coach without the consent or order of the game official may receive a one game suspension and forfeiture of the game to the opposing team.

Probation: In cases where it is determined that the degree of offense is such that a suspension is not appropriate, the offender may be placed on probation under conditions specified by the Athletic Supervisor.

All disciplinary measures that are to be appealed must be made in writing within 48 hours of the ruling.

The Athletic Supervisor will determine if it should be brought before the Soccer Committee.

Any disciplinary action taken will result in penalty in all SPORTS.

Players red-carded will be ejected and receive a one game suspension. Coaches that are ejected will receive a two game suspension. Once again, a coach has two minutes to leave the playing area or the game will be ruled a forfeit.

An automatic red card for any playing (not conduct) rule infraction (i.e. defensive hand ball in the goal area or goalkeeper touching the ball outside the goal area) will NOT constitute a one game suspension. The suspension will only be for the remainder of that game.

League Standings

First, second, and third place trophies will be awarded as determined by the end of regular season games. These trophies will be given at season awards ceremony. If there are five or less teams in a division, only first and second place trophies will be awarded. All other teams will be awarded participation trophies.

There will be a single elimination tournament at the conclusion of the regular season. All teams will participate in the tournament. Only the championship team will receive some type of award.

At the conclusion of regular season play should two or more teams be tied for first, second or third place the following tiebreaker system will be in effect:

- Step 1 - Head to head competition.
- Step 2 - Fewest goals yielded in the head to head competition.
- Step 3 - Fewest goals yielded for the entire season.

When there are more than three teams tied for first, second, or third, the tie breaking system will be used to determine which team is awarded the appropriate place. The remaining two teams will resort back to step 1 to break their tie for the appropriate place.

Regular season games that are tied at the end of regulation time will remain a tie.

If a tournament game is tied after regulation play, two five minute overtime periods will be played. At the conclusion of either five minute overtime period, if either team scored more goals than the other, that team wins and the game is over. If game is still tied, each team takes five penalty kicks. If still tied, 1 to 1 (head to head) penalty kicks will be taken.

Insurance

The City of Sunrise provides a secondary medical insurance plan for all youth sport participants. In the event of injury, participant's parent or guardian should notify their coach first, in order to fill out the proper paperwork. If the coach is not available, please contact the Leisure Services' office. If medical attention is needed, all participants must first file with their primary insurance carrier. This plan is secondary in nature only.

Other General Information

Teams cannot score goals from any kick off.

Remove all litter from sideline areas and dispose of properly at the conclusion of games or practices.

Field maintenance is to be performed by authorized City staff only.

Vehicles are not allowed inside park gates. Do not block emergency access area, maintenance drive, or park in posted zones.

Facility Attendants may close fields to practice or games due to weather or safety factors. Whenever possible, field maintenance staff or park facility attendants will make determinations on field conditions at least one and a half-hour prior to scheduled game times or practice times. In case of inclement weather, coaches ONLY may contact the Sports Information line 1-½ hours prior to game time for status of fields. The information line number is 572-2255 (i.e. 572-BALL).

Coaches, parents, and spectators are expected to follow park instructions when the lightning prediction system is in effect.

Fields are closed when the park or fields are locked. Do not enter fields when gates are locked. Contact the facility attendant for field status.

Do not climb on goals or nets.

Field lights are turned off ten minutes prior to park closing unless a game is in progress.

Failure to comply with requests of facility attendant, athletic staff, or field maintenance staff may result in loss of field privileges.

No players, coach, League Administrator, Manager, or Referee/Officials shall be permitted to use tobacco products of any kind while participating in any game or practice on or off the field.

All coaches will receive a copy of the City of Sunrise Soccer Rules.

Players are not guaranteed a request for a coach when signing up their child.

Names MAY NOT be printed on the back of players' shirts.

Persons under the influence of alcohol/drugs, or the use of alcohol/drugs in any form by players or adults are not permitted during games or practices. All coaches, parents, and spectators must abide by the City of Sunrise smoking ordinance.

Names of the Athletic Supervisor, and Soccer Committee will be given to all coaches.

There will be no parent vs. player, coaches vs. coaches or coaches vs. referee games without the prior approval of the Athletic Supervisor.

All teams must adhere to the soccer picture schedule.

All rules contained herein are subject to interpretation and/or change, upon the recommendation of the Soccer Committee and with the approval of the Department of Leisure Services.

Any rules that are not stated in this rulebook will be governed by the "FIFA – Laws of the Game". These rules can be found at the following URL

<http://www.doitnowproductionz.com/Coach%27s%20Goals.htm>

My signature below indicates that I have read and understand the 2009/2010 Soccer:

X_____

Soccer Advisory Committee

Sonya Costello

Arthur Drago

Waleed El Eid

Calvin Rickard